

stipation, thirty minims of fluid extract of *rhamnus purshiana* may be added to the acid. Instead of the *digitalis* and *strychnine*, a pill or capsule of a grain of extract of *hyoscyamus*, with three grains of *cerium oxalate*, may be given. Before an anticipated period of dissipation a pill of two grains of *quinine sulphate*, the same amount of extract of *eucalyptus globulus*, and one-third of a grain of extract of *cannabis indica* should be given with each meal for two weeks. (3) The patient should be separated from his associates, and if this cannot be done in any other way, he should reside in a well-regulated asylum for six to twelve months.—*Quarterly Journal of Inebriety*, 1897, No. 2, p. 162.

Nicotine.—DR. J. W. SEAVER cites various authorities giving the effect of this drug upon the nervous and muscular systems, the alimentary tract, glandular activity, and the blood. Dividing a class in college into three groups: (1) non-users of tobacco in any form, (2) those who have used it regularly for at least a year, and (3) the irregular users, he finds that the first group grows in weight 10.4 per cent. more than the second and 6.6 per cent. more than the third. In height the first group grows 24 per cent. more than the second and 11 per cent. more than the third. In girth of chest the first group grows 26.7 per cent. more than the second and 22 per cent. more than the third. In lung-capacity the first group gains 77 per cent. more than the second and 49.5 per cent. more than the third. Among students of the highest scholarship about 5 per cent. use tobacco, while of those who do not obtain college appointments over 60 per cent. use tobacco.—*Quarterly Journal of Inebriety*, 1897, No. 2, p. 132.

Cinchonism.—DR. PIERRE SILLAN reports a single instance. A woman, forty-five years of age, became delirious after taking *quinine sulphate*, three and three-quarter grains every four hours for thirty hours. The limbs were trembling, but not rigid, pupils contracted, temperature normal, and the pulse eighty and respiration forty to the minute. There had been suppression of urine for nine hours. A tablespoonful, withdrawn by catheter, was thick and high colored, but not otherwise abnormal. Excessive headache and tinnitus aurium were complained of. Later there was vomiting. The symptoms were relieved by *potassium bromide* and *chloral*, fifteen grains of each dissolved in camphor-water, of which two doses were given at an hour's interval.—*Therapeutic Gazette*, 1897, No. 7, p. 502.

Rhus-poisoning.—DR. JOSEPH H. HUNT recommends the yellow wash (*lotio hydrargyri flava*, B. P.; corrosive mercuric chloride, 1; lime-water, 243), used in full strength, continuously applied by means of a cloth wet with the lotion, as soon as irritation is recognized. It may not prevent vesication, but it is cooling, and will subdue much of the inflammation. After the acute symptoms subside an emollient ointment should be used. For the febrile condition *aconite* or *gelsemium* and *quinine* may be employed.—*Brooklyn Medical Journal*, 1897, No. 6, p. 392.

Treatment of Snake-bites.—DR. CORISLANO D'UTRA, from a large experience in Brazil, neutralizes the poison, even when it is in the circulation, as is

shown by abundant hemorrhage, deafness, blindness, vertigo, nausea, and almost imperceptible heart-beats, by giving thirty grains of calomel in an ounce of lemon-juice, and repeating this every two hours. After the third dose the patient is out of danger. Of more than one hundred patients, none have died. An infallible preventive is the carrying of one to five drachms of sublimate attached to some portion of the body, which either causes the snake to flee, or should it bite it is harmless. This note was presented by the author in addition to the statements of Fraser as to the properties and curative influence of antivenene.—*Bulletin Général de Thérapeutique*, 1897, 8e liv. p. 368.

The Cutaneous Absorption of Iodine.—MM. LINossier and Lannois conclude from their experiments that (1) iodine applied by painting is absorbed by the skin. This absorption, very small when the painted part is exposed to the air, becomes much more active when it is hermetically covered. The maximum of absorption takes place at the time of the application. (2) The superficial alteration of the epidermis produced by the tincture of iodine, provided it does not go on to destruction of the corneous layer, appears to be an obstacle rather than an aid to absorption. Under the most favorable conditions the absorption is too irregular to make the painting of iodine useful in general iodine medication. (3) Iodoform and ethyl iodide are absorbed by the healthy skin, the latter in sufficient quantity to be useful, if needful, for a general iodine treatment.—*Bulletin Général de Thérapeutique*, 1897, 9e liv. p. 385.

Eucaine.—Dr. G. SCOGNAMIGLIO presents a very excellent report which embodies the observations of previous experimenters. He shows conclusively that it is less toxic than cocaine, and that the resulting anæsthesia is as rapid, complete, and intense as that of the latter drug, and is diffused through a larger area. His general conclusion is that it is a better and cheaper local anæsthetic.—*L'Nuovi Remedii*, 1897, fasc. 1-3, pp. 3, 18.

Dr. E. T. MELLISH states that this drug is chemically compatible with the following substances: Phenol, trikresol, guaiacol, naphtol, salol, ichthyol, formalin, iodoform, such hydrocarbons as petroleum, vaselin, benzene, fats and fatty oils, ethereal oils, camphor and terpenes, alcohol, glycerin, ether, chloroform, chloral, alkaloids, and alkaloidal bodies. It can be sterilized by heat, and appears to be permanent in solution.—*The Therapist*, 1897, No. 5, p. 49.

Treatment of Sciatica.—Dr. ALBERT ROBIN calls especial attention to the use of hypodermatic injections of sodium glycerophosphate, 1, in distilled water, 4. As alternatives he offers the following formulæ: 1. Calcium, magnesium, and potassium glycerophosphates, of each, .04; sodium glycerophosphate, 13; and (2) iron glycerophosphate, .05; calcium, magnesium, and potassium glycerophosphate, of each .08. Of the three formulas he prefers the first, which is less irritating. The others are more active, but cause marked pain. He generally commences with twelve minims, which is usually sufficient; if necessary, doubling the dose. The solutions should be prepared in small quantities as needed, but can be preserved in small, sterilized bottles,